

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 IO-13 NSC-05
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
IGA-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /098 W
-----081717Z 073756 /44

R 081521Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2364
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 2330

PASS TO AFR/RA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECIN, AFDB, US
SUBJECT: AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT
FUND

REFS: (A) ABIDJAN 1898 (B) ABIDJAN 0466

1. REDSO DIRECTOR WEDEMAN MET WITH AFDB PRESIDENT
FORDWOR ON SATURDAY, MARCH 5 AND DISCUSSED:

(A) EXPECTED ARAB ASSISTANCE TO THE BANK AS A RESULT
OF CURRENT CAIRO MEETING.

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(B) RESULTS OF CANVASSING OTHER DONORS FOR ASSISTANCE
TO THE AFDB/ADF.

(C) MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE BANK.

(D) ATTENDANCE AT CLUB DES AMIS MEETING IN
OTTAWA.

2. CAIRO MEETING. FORDWOR AND THE TANZANIANS, PERHAPS INDEPENDENTLY, HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN EFFORTS TO SECURE US \$2 BILLION FROM THE OPEC STATES FOR ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA. UNDER THE TANZANIAN PROPOSAL, THIS AMOUNT WOULD HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IN TRANCHES OF \$400 MILLION PER YEAR FOR FIVE YEARS. FORDWOR WAS NOT PRECISE ABOUT HIS OWN PROPOSAL EXCEPT TO SAY HE BELIEVED THE AMOUNT THE OPEC COUNTRIES WOULD FURNISH AS A RESULT OF THE CAIRO MEETING WOULD BE ON THE ORDER OF US \$1 BILLION TO BE DIVIDED BETWEEN THE AFDB AND THE ARAB BANK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (BADEA) PLUS PERHAPS \$200 MILLION FOR THE ADF. THE ASSISTANCE TO THE BANK WOULD BE IN THE FORM OF A LOAN WITH A 25-YEAR MATURITY INCLUDING A FIVE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD WITH INTEREST AT 6 PERCENT. FORDWOR IS ATTENDING THE CAIRO MEETING AND HOPES FIRM AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED THERE. HE FEELS THAT IF HE IS SUCCESSFUL IN RAISING AT LEAST US \$250 MILLION IN CAIRO FOR THE BANK, HE WILL HAVE TAKEN A MAJOR STEP TO GET THE AFDB GOING.

3. OTHER DONOR ASSISTANCE TO THE BANK. AS STATED IN REF (B), THE BANK, THROUGH THE INTERMEDIARY OF VARIOUS HEADS OF STATE, HAS BEEN SEEKING BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO THE BANK. THE PROJECTED LETTER FROM PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY OF THE IVORY COAST TO PRESIDENT CARTER, MENTIONED IN REF (B), HAS NOT RPT NOT GONE FORWARD BECAUSE OF TRANSLATION PROBLEMS. THE SAME THING IS TRUE FOR A SIMILAR IVORY COAST LETTER TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GERMANS. HOUPHOUET HAS ALREADY WRITTEN TO THE FRENCH. BASED ON HIS OWN SOUNDINGS, FORDWOR SAID HE HAD SOME HOPE FOR SECURING DUTCH, CANADIAN AND GERMAN MONEY, THE LATTER THROUGH THE VEHICLE OF THE KFW. SEE ALSO PARA 10 OF REF A ON THESE MATTERS. FOLLOWING THE MEETING IN CAIRO, FORDWOR INTENDS TO VISIT OTTAWA VERY BRIEFLY TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED CANADIAN LOAN TO THE BANK. HE RETURNS TO ABIDJAN ON MARCH 16.

4. MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE BANK. THERE IS PROVISION FOR FIVE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE BANK OF WHICH ONLY ONE IS FILLED AT THE PRESENT TIME BY MR. GONDWE OF MALAWI. FORDWOR HAS RECRUITED TWO MORE:

A. A MOROCCAN (UNNAMED) FOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR OPERATIONS. HE IS REPORTED TO BE THE CURRENT HEAD OF THE BNDE BRANCH IN CASABLANCA.

B. A NIGERIAN (AGAIN UNNAMED) FOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE. HE IS AN ACCOUNTANT BY PROFESSION AND APPARENTLY WAS A BANK INSPECTOR IN NIGERIA FOR SOME TIME AND IS NOW IN PRIVATE BUSINESS IN NIGERIA. WHILE HE HAD NO OTHER CANDIDATES, FORDWOR ANTICIPATES CHOOSING PERSONS FOR THE FINAL TWO VICE PRESIDENTIAL POSTS BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING IN MAURITIUS ON OR ABOUT APRIL 15.

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 IO-13 NSC-05
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01
IGA-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /098 W

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R 081521Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2365

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PASS TO AFR/RA

5. FORDWOR IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE OPERATIONS OF THE BANK, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO PROJECT DEVELOPMENT. SALL, A SENEGALESE WHO HAS BEEN HEAD OF THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE MATTERS, HAS LEFT. HE HAD PREVIOUSLY TURNED DOWN AN OFFER OF A VICE PRESIDENCE DESPITE PRESSURE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF SENEGAL TO ACCEPT. SALL'S DEPUTY, EL HELW, AN EGYPTIAN, WILL BE RESIGNING AS OF 1 MAY TO BECOME AN ADVISOR TO THE GOVERNMENT OF KUWAIT. FORDWOR INTENDS

TO DIVIDE THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT INTO TWO NEW DEPARTMENTS, ONE FOR OPERATIONS, THE OTHER FOR PROJECTS. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT. TECHNICAL PERSONNEL SUCH AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENGINEERS WILL BE IN THE PROJECTS DEPARTMENT, LOAN OFFICERS IN OPERATIONS. WOLDE MARIAM GIRMA, PRESENTLY ETHIOPIAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WILL RESIGN THAT POSITION AND BECOME HEAD OF THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT. THERE IS NO NAME IN VIEW FOR CHIEF OF THE PROJECTS DEPARTMENT EXCEPT THAT HE WILL PROBABLY NOT BE DRAWN FROM THE PRESENT OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT STAFF. IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, OMAR ALI, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, WILL RESIGN AT THE END OF MARCH TO TAKE UP A POSITION WITH A FUND HEADQUARTERED IN KUWAIT.

6. FORDWOR HAS TALKED TO CHAUFOURNIER OF THE IBRD CONCERNING HELP IN PROJECT PREPARATION. HE SAID CHAUFOURNIER WAS SYMPATHETIC. THIS PART OF THE AFDDB CLEARLY NEEDS CONSIDERABLE STRENGTHENING AND WEDEMAN INDICATED THAT AID WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EXAMINING THE BANK'S REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS WITH THOSE OF THE IBRD. THE REQUIREMENT APPEARS TO BE FOR EXPERIENCED LOAN OFFICERS AND ENGINEERS TO ADVISE THE BANK IN DETAIL ON HOW TO PUT TOGETHER AND PRESENT PROJECTS. AID, FOR MANY YEARS UNTIL 1975, DID PROVIDE THIS KIND OF ASSISTANCE THROUGH A LOAN OFFICER SECONDED TO THE BANK'S STAFF.

7. CLUB DES AMIS. FORDWOR WOULD ACCEPT AN INVITATION TO GO TO OTTAWA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLUB DES AMIS. HE HAD BEEN PLANNING TO BE IN CANADA AT THE END OF MAY OR THE BEGINNING OF JUNE TO TAKE A SHORT BRUSHUP COURSE IN FRENCH. HE WOULD BE AMENABLE, HOWEVER, TO DOING THE SAME THING IN THE U.S. IF A SHORT COURSE OF APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS COULD BE PROVIDED. DECONTROL 6/30/77. STEARNS

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